

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN RE THE APPLICATION OF)	
)	
Mark Joseph Stefan Jarosz)	Examiner:
)	Art Unit No:
SERIAL NO:)	
)	
FILED:)	
)	
FOR: COMPUTER SYSTEMS, IN PARTICULAR)		
VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97-1.98, submitted herewith is Form PTO-1449 along with copies of the 6 references identified therein. Also submitted herewith is a copy of the British Search Report which was received by the Applicant on 11 December 2000 and which constitutes the first knowledge of the Applicant of the cited references. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore being timely filed and no fee is due.

The references were cited variously as category X and Y documents against the original British claims, and it is believed that these references, while of technological background interest, are not relevant to the invention as claimed in the present application, whose claims have been restricted in comparison with those British claims.

GB 2340702 A (SUN), cited as category Y, relates to name resolution, that is the mapping of host names to IP addresses in the case where the name server is behind a VPN. The present application and SUN share a common description of what a VPN is, but it cannot be seen that SUN relates to the construction and deployment of VPNs in a robust manner as claimed in the present application.

GB 2328352 A (LUCENT), cited as category Y, is concerned with a method by which a network node in a managed network environment has a primary and secondary manager assigned to it in a manner which provides for resilience to failure of the primary manager. It cannot be seen that LUCENT is relevant to the claims proposed in the present application.

GB 2289394 A (EUROPLEX), cited as category X, relates to a Master Node in a network ring performing fault diagnosis and determining when nodes are added/deleted. This is not considered relevant to the claims in the present application.

GB 2028062 A (STANDARD), cited as category X, is concerned with communication in a ring based network system and in particular to a technique for improving system security in such an arrangement. This is not considered relevant to the claims of the present application.

EP 0537903 A2 (IBM), cited as category Y, is concerned with security of communication between processes and the construction of a security key. This is not believed relevant to the claims of the present application.

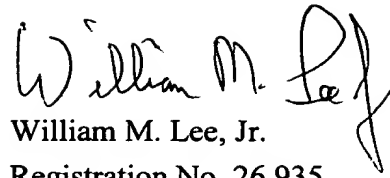
WO 96/21981 A2 (ERICSSON), cited as category X, is concerned with maintaining data integrity of multiple databases on multiple platforms and routing messages to a platform that is defined as operational. It is based on an agreed view (consensus) of a platform's operational state between all relevant participating nodes. It is not believed relevant to the claims of the present application, indeed the system and method of the applicant's proposal is very much predicated on no such consensus being necessary.

It is therefore submitted that the claims of this application are clearly patentable over the references.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

Date:

Respectfully Submitted



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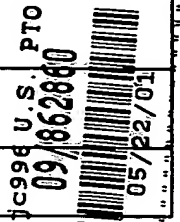
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 190-13\477	SERIAL NO.
	APPLICANT Jarosz	
	FILING DATE	GROUP



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
		2 340 702	2/27/00	Great Britain			
		2 328 352	2/17/99	Great Britain			
		2 289 394	11/15/95	Great Britain			
		2 028 062	2/27/80	Great Britain			
		WO 96/21981	7/18/96	PCT			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: INITIAL IF REFERENCE CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED. INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.